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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEC 2600 MAILROOM

In re

U.S. application of:

Hiroaki KUBO and Yasuhiro MORIMOTO

For:

DIGITAL CAMERA

U.S. Serial No.:

09/735,751

Filed:

December 13, 2000

Group Art Unit:

2612

Examiner:

To Be Assigned

Assistant Director
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Director for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on

FEBRUARY 16, 2001

Date of Deposit

JAMES W. WILLIAMS

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Representative

James W. William

FEBRUARY 16, 2001

Date of Signature

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants wish to bring the following items to the attention of the Examiner. A copy of each document is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

No representation is made, and no representation is intended, that more relevant material does not exist, or that the order of presentation of this material in any way reflects its relative pertinence. The references cited below are not intended to constitute an admission of any kind. Specifically, this presentation is not an admission that the items listed below are properly citable against the above-identified application.

In

Serial No.: 09/735,751

(1) Hayashi et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,991,004, issued February 5, 1991;

- (2) Foley, U.S. Patent No. 5,184,227, issued February 2, 1993; and
- (3) <u>Photo International</u>, Vol. 31, No. 366, August, 1999, pp. 1 and 10-11.

Applicants consider the invention to be distinguishable over the above-cited documents.

As this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the issuance of the first office action, no fee is incurred. However, if it should be determined that a fee is required, please charge any required fee (other than the issue fee) during the pendency of this application to Sidley & Austin's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

Respectfully submitted,

James W. Williams

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JWW:pm

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February 16, 2001